

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for securing an initial tail of film to a load while wrapping the load with packaging material are provided. The method includes holding a leading end of packaging material while providing relative rotation between the load and the dispenser to wrap film around the load. A portion of the leading end of film is secured to a fixed wrapping structure while the leading end of the film is held. After the leading end is secured to the fixed wrapping structure, the leading end of the film is released. The released leading end of the film is then secured to the load. The apparatus includes means for holding a leading end of packaging material and means for providing relative rotation between the load and a dispenser to dispense packaging material. The apparatus also includes means for securing a held leading end of packaging material and means for securing a released leading end of packaging material between two layers of packaging material. A method and apparatus for securing a final tail of film to the load also are provided.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER ^{LLP}

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com